

A
 REVIEW
 OF THE
 STATE
 OF THE
 BRITISH NATION.

Thursday, March 16. 1710.

I Am examining the Difference which appears between the late Mob, which have given us a Taste of their Good-Will, and the usual Assemblies of the common People on publick Affairs; and am now upon the first Head. The different People that compos'd this Rabble.

Papists, Non-Furors, and Persons distressed to her Majesty's Title and Government.

I must confess, it is a Debt to Justice, to do every one of these right in their Place. *PAPISTS*, as such, might, and indeed must, be very glad to see this Distraction; and if any of the hot and most forward were at

hand, they would be willing to be sure to set on the Furies one upon another, as a Thing in its Nature made for their Cause, and by Consequence must be to their Advantage, *Qua Papist*; but other than this casual countenancing and encouraging the Brolls of Protestants, in order to divide us, I do not see any Reason to charge the *Papist*. And really, Gentlemen, if we will be Fools, we can expect nothing less of the *Papists*, than to help on your Folly; who can blame them?

The *NON-FUROR*, no question, stood, and laugh'd, and clapt his Hands, and thought it fine Sport to see us a pulling one another to pieces; and being willing to fan the Flame, and help forward our Confusions, they

they mingled among the *Gentry* of the *Casale*, and did all they could— Who doubts it? Nor, *Qua Non-Furors*, can I blame them so much as some do— For really, Gentlemen, the War was declar'd before; they do not hide their Sentiments, but, as I have often noted, they are open fair Enemies, and you know them to be so; you know what to expect from them, they know what to expect from you; if you catch them in the Corn, you must put them in the Pound— they expect it, and they tell you fairly, they will do all they can— These therefore cannot be the Authors of these Distractions, they may prompt them when rais'd, and it is no Slander upon them to tell them so; I dare say, an honest downright *Non-Furor* will own he was glad to see it, and if he knew how to have encreas'd the Flame, would have done it; nor had there been any Difference to him, Whether to raise the *High-Church* Mob upon the Meeting-Houses, or the *Dissenters* Mob upon the Churches, or rather than either, both of them— And if any of you were *Non-Furors*, and in your Senses, you would be of the same Mind; therefore pray, Gentlemen, put the Saddle upon the right Horse there too.

DISAFFECTED PERSONS are the third Sort— And pray, let us examine who these are— The very Manner of the Expression will describe them—

1. What they are disaffected to? They are such as are disaffected to her Majesty's Title and Government.
2. Yet they are not *Non-Furors*, for they are mention'd before; not *Papists*, they are nam'd first.

Now for a cunning Man to unriddle a horrid Paradox, an Enigma that was never yet to be form'd upon the Practice of any Men, Body of Men, or Nation of Men in the World, but in this unhappy Island.

They swear to the *QUEEN*, as to their Rightful Sovereign, yet are disaffected to her Title.

They are *Protestants*—yet are disaffected to her Government.

Was ever any thing so contradicting, so absurd, so inconsistent with it self, or with common Sense, as this? — *What*, first swear, that her Majesty is the only Lawful and Rightful Sovereign— Then abjure King James and the Pretender, and in short all Pretenders to the Crown, and this in the solemnest Manner—and yet be disaffected to Her Majesty's TITLE? Sure it can never be; the Parliament must be mistaken, there can be no such Monsters left in the Nation.

And really, Gentlemen, I do not wonder, that some Gentlemen without Doors, as to those within I have nothing to do with them, are frequently regretting, that the Word *Republican* was not added— Not that they can tell us who they mean by that Word, but because that Word would have help'd to have taken off the odious and reproachful Thoughts, that the Nation must have of this Matter from the *High-Church* Party. But alas, alas! it would not do, and now it lies upon these People— Pray, let us see if we can put a Mark upon them, for they ought to be distinguish'd, that honest Men may shun them; as the Pilots set Buoys and Marks for Rocks and Sands that are cover'd with Water, that the Sailors may not split and be stranded upon them.

In short, By Persons disaffected to her Majesty's Title and Government—who the Proclamation say, are the Authors of this Mob— *Ye are so understand*, those amphibious Monsters call'd abjuring *Jacobines*— Strange Creatures they are indeed! I'll endeavour to give the Picture of one of their Priests.

They are, when view'd in Perspective— exactly in the Form of other Men— As Saint-like, as soft and smooth as any of us; and none can, till they come nearer, distinguish them from the Elect.

But as of a fine Picture, when you come near to it, and take it off from its Shades and Distances, it discovers the meer naked Clods of Oils and Colours, nasty, shapeless, and stinking— So when you come near this Dragon, you discover his Nakedness— The Lines of his Face are all Fury and Male-content; his Breath is a contagious Flame, that

that both burns and poisons at the same time ; his Words come from him like Vomit, filthy and furious — He curses his Sovereign at the same time he prays for her, wishes her Confusion when he drinks her Health, and resolves to oppose her when he swears to her — His Eyes sparkle with Rage at that Government he submits to, and he bites his Tongue when he speaks of the Revolution, that he may put himself in mind of reproaching it with Bitterness enough ; He is a Hypocrite, that no Party is safe in ; The *Jacobite* cannot trust him, for he really betrays their Cause by taking the Oaths ; The *Government* cannot trust him, for they are always betray'd by him, notwithstanding his Oaths ; The *Rapists* cannot trust him, for all he has to value himself upon, is now and then an Excursion at them to make himself popular ; The *Dissenters* cannot trust him, for he breathes Death and Destruction at them — Yet over all this, he wears the Sheep's Cloathing, he prays for his Enemies, and betrays his Friends ; he gives Indulgence to *Dissenters* without Toleration, swears to his Sovereign without Loyalty, he raises Tumults by Way of Non-Resistance, and reconciles Passive-Obedience with the Revolution.

These are but a few Parts of his Character ; the rest is seen in his Conversation — His Discourse is all *Jacobite*, his Drink runs all down with *Jacobite* Healths, he rejoices in the Prosperity of the *French*, looks chagrin and dull when they are beaten, lessens all our Successes, heightens all our Losses, and which is worse, increases and widens all our Divisions and Breaches.

This, I think, without Wrong to his Character, is some Part of the Out-side of a

Swearing, Abjuration-taking *Jacobite*, whose Titles and odd Names may be various ; but the common Name for the Body of them is *High-Flyer* — Let Heaven and Earth judge if we wrong him ; for if Mankind can be madder, fly higher, or run into more desperate Things, I am mistaken.

These are Heads and true Originals of our Tumults and Mobbs — To these we owe Riot to explain Non-Resistance, and pulling down Meeting-Houses, as a Testimony of their Zeal for the Indulgence of tender Consciences. Till this Sort of People appear'd in the World, there was no such thing known ; even in King *Charles II's* Days, they could never rabble the *Dissenters*, they could never bring the Mob to pull down the Meeting-Houses, or rob the Dwelling-Houses of the *Dissenters*.

And really in this, the differing Temper of this Party, from what has been known in *England*, will appear ; we have had Mobbs formerly upon various Occasions — And I have some Thoughts of giving the World a short Treatise I have had long by me, Entitled, *A History of the Mob* — But it was observ'd, those Mobbs always aim'd at pulling down some real Grievance — Such as Bawdy-houses, Mafs-houses, sham Gaols for wrongfully impress'd Men, Nests of Kid-nappers, and the like ; and they were always observ'd, when the Work was over, they had no farther Mischief in View, nor would they injure any but those they particularly pointed at — But this Rabble was fill'd with Thieves and Murderers, Robbers and Incendiaries — Their Rage was bloody, their Temper barbarous, and their End Plunder and Destruction. As I shall make plain in my next.

MISCELLANEA.

I Omitted, in my last, giving you an Account of the Proceedings of a new Society, who, as I told you, having in vain long attempted to suppress Vice by loading

it with Reproach, have now erected an Office for granting Licenses for the necessary Sins of the Times.

It has been under their Debate for ten Days past, upon what Terms Non-Jurors may plot against their Sovereign: High-Church Men rail at their Bishops, Hair-brain'd Priests affront the Government, and the Oath-taking *Jacobites* abuse the QUEEN— And tho' we have delay'd the Conclusion for some time, yet because the Gentlemen begin to be impatient, we must bring it to a Head.

In short, the Non-Jurors have obtain'd from our Office, That they shall rail at, curse, and plot against their Sovereign, upon the Conditions following.

1. That they quietly pay double Taxes.
2. That when the Pretender comes, they shall only swear for him, but not dare to fight.
3. That after the Peace, they remain *Jacobites* as they were before, for their own continued Correction.

High-Church-men are licens'd to rail at their Bishops, upon this express Stipulation singly, That they never pretend to be made Bishops themselves.

The Hot-spurr Clergy-men are licens'd to affront the Government in their Sermons; on Condition, That whenever any Magistrate encourages them to print their Sermons, the said Magistrate shall be at Liberty to deny it again before the *House of Commons*.

Ditto, may abuse the Parliament, Queen, and Revolution, exactly at the same Price as Dr. *Sacheverell*.

These Affairs being settled, the Gentlemen may, if they please, come to the Office, and taking out their Licenses, may go to work when they will.

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